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# FBI Spy Names Top N.E. Reds

Party Stronger Than  
Ever in U.S.,  
Says Penha

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
Boston Globe (X)  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

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## Lists 20 as Composing High Command For Area—Calls Michael Russo Boss

A Fairhaven mill foreman who became a borer-from-within the Communist Party at the request of the FBI listed for a congressional committee in Boston this afternoon the names of 20 men and women he described as the New England high command of the party.

The 38-year-old witness, Armando Penha, told the committee he believed the Communist movement in the United States was "much stronger than ever before."

There were a few new names in the "New England District Committee" roster given by Penha, but the majority were familiar ones like Michael Russo, Otis Archer Hood, Daniel Boone Schirmer, Anne Burlak Timpson, the party headliners who have been involved in testimony about Communism in Massachusetts for a generation.

Penha said that as section organizer for New Bedford he was a member of the high command himself. Top man of the committee elected in 1955 and still heading up Communist affairs hereabouts is Michael Russo, whose title is "district organizer," Penha stated.

Although the number of Communists in the United States has been shrinking, the party "actually strengthens itself every time it weeds out the weaklings," Penha declared.

The Fairhaven man was the first of 40 witnesses subpoenaed for the Federal Building hearings before members of the House Un-American Activities subcommittee. Acting chairman today was Cong. Morgan M. Moulder, Missouri Democrat. Also sitting were Cong. Clyde Doyle (D-Calif.) and Cong. Bernard W. Larney

(N.Y.) Directing proceedings was committee counsel Richard Arens. The hearings are expected to continue through Friday.

**RED PROBE**  
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### RED PROBE

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Penha testified that he was

employed as an inspector for the Acushnet Process Co. Early in 1950, he said, he got in touch with an FBI agent and offered

his services as a spy within the party. He did this because he felt that he should "do something to maintain American freedoms."

Early in his testimony, Penha

was asked by Arens whether he considered the Communist Party a serious threat in New England now.

"I'd prefer to tell you how serious it is throughout the country," the witness replied. "I feel, and I'm sure I'm cor-

rect, that the Communist conspiracy today is much stronger than ever before. It isn't the total number of members that's important. The party plays up loss of members as propaganda,

but actually strengthens itself every time it weeds out the weaklings."

#### Names Leaders

It was after the noon recess that Penha outlined the party's organizational structure and names the leaders. In order after himself and organizer Michael Russo, he listed the following:

Sidney Lapshins.

Daniel Boone Schirmer, party defense chairman in charge of propaganda, undermining and harassing state and Federal governments.

Kitty Heck, imported from another state as underground courier.

Godfrey White of Providence, a brilliant man, Harvard graduate and infiltration specialist—transferred recently to California.

Tony Passeretti, Lawrence, sectional organizer.

Joseph Chase—"I don't know his. He wasn't at the election meeting."

Bill Harrison, a writer—"He wasn't at the meeting either."

Eddie Garfield, union infiltrationist and editor of an industrial plant newspaper.

Robert Goodwin of Lynn, infiltrationist.

Nathaniel Mills of Lynn, infiltrationist.

Marguerite Hicks of Boston.

Elba Chase, sectional organizer for New Hampshire.

Hugo DiGregory, key man for New Hampshire.

Howard of Springfield.

Paul Rosenkrantz of Springfield.

Otis Archer Hood of Roxbury, many-time party candidate for governor.

#### Anne Burlak Named

Edith Abber.

Anne Burlak Timpson, Roxbury. When Hood's name was mentioned, Cong. Kearney asked Penha if that "dignitary" of the party was present.

"Yes," said Penha. "He's right there smiling at me."

"Is that the governor?" inquired Kearney.

"He will be when the Communists take over here."

Penha elaborated: "Hood is a man of some stature physically and he has the same stature in the party. He is ruthless and capable of anything to further his own interests. He is in charge of press and literature."

Penha also had some extra words to describe Anne Burlak Timpson. "She is vicious and unscrupulous," he declared. "She is a paid functionary from the national committee. She sits on the sidelines and at the appropriate moment takes over with the whip. The whip is her tongue, which she uses to lash everybody."



The party's Massachusetts leaders are Marguerite Hicks, Robert Goodwin, Michael Russo, Edith Abber, Sidney Lipshires and Kitty Heck, the witness stated.

#### Financed by "Angels"

He said the party was financed principally by "angels"—wealthy benefactors. As an example, he cited one, Maude DeHaze of New Bedford, who died in 1953, leaving \$14,000 in cash and \$8,000 in real estate to Hood, Mrs. Timpson, Mary Figuerido and Louis Dimitroff, with the understanding the bequests were actually for the party.

Before getting around to the party's sectional high command, Penha had named more than 20 other persons he identified as leaders in various cities. First, he listed the "big shots in New Bedford."

These, he testified, were himself, Mrs. Mary Figuerido, Nat Sheldman, Nat's wife, Annie Sheldman, and Dan Amato.

Mrs. Figuerido was in charge of press relations and dues in the New Bedford area, Penha said. She "serviced" Communist Party sympathizers in their homes and was available as a courier. Sheldman allegedly was a "colonizer," who was instructed by the party to infiltrate labor unions.

Amato worked in a rubber plant and his job was to influence fellow workers.

Also, testified Penha, there was an Olga Sarczynski, a "union organizer who put the Communist Party first."

#### RED PROBE

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#### RED PROBE

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Subcommittee counsel Richard Arens asked what titles

Penha had held in the Communist Party.

His first titled office was as section organizer for the New Bedford area, Penha declared. This made him "head Communist for that area."

Subsequently, he became chairman for the Bristol County Area, taking in New Bedford, Taunton and Fall River. He was also "regional sectional organizer and a delegate to the party's national textile commission in New York City."

"What was your last service to the party and when did you perform it?" Arens inquired.

"Just this past week," responded Penha. "As head of the party in the New Bedford area, I was approached by a couple of party members as to how they should conduct themselves before this committee."

"I supplied them with copies of previous committee hearings throughout the country, showing the procedure and the lines of questioning."

#### Men Advised to Testify

Cong. Bernard W. Kearney, New York Republican, asked Penha if the men he advised were under subpoena to testify here. He said they were.

Arens asked Penha if he considered the Communist Party a political party. "Not in the sense we understand political parties," the witness answered.

"It's a conspiracy to defeat the political parties that exist."

"How does the party get its strength?"

Answer: "By infiltration and mass agitation. The party places trusted members in industry and in labor to serve the party's interest. They work for positions of influence, and they foment dissatisfaction."



(Globe Staff Photo by Louis Russo)

AMONG WITNESSES called by Congressional committee was Otis Archer Hood, shown with his wife at courthouse.

# Counterspy Testifies at Red Hearing



(Globe Staff Photo by Charles McCormick)

SCENE AT FEDERAL BUILDING today as Congressional committee opened four days of hearings on Communist activities in New England. Testifying is Armand Penha of Fairhaven, who became a Communist at request of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.





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## Skipped Church 8 Years Denial of Religion Worst Ordeal—Penha



REDS GET STRONGER when they weed out the weaklings, counterspy Armand Penha, told Congressional committee here.

Armand Penha, the Fairhaven man who is the latest undercover agent for the FBI to be brought forward to expose the continuing conspiracy, told of his trials and tribulations today.

He told congressional probers in Boston of the years of intrigue and emphasized:

"Once I was in the party, I realized that the very thing I needed to have close to me I could not have—my religion."

Penha told of his cloak-and-dagger experience at the invitation of committee counsel Arens, who asked that the witness describe his life in the ranks of "this godless conspiracy."

The anti-Communist agent said he was born in New Bedford in 1920 and in 1933 was taken to Portugal with his parents. There he remained until 1940 when he returned and was subsequently employed by the United States Government Office of Censorship in New York City.

COUNTERSPY

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## COUNTERSPY

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He entered the service in 1942 and was later called into military intelligence where he served for 32 months prior to his discharge. He obtained a position with John Hancock Insurance Co., the job he held when he joined the party in 1950.

Penha testified that party leaders told him that if he wanted to progress in their ranks he would have to quit the insurance business and get into the "industrial field." He followed their instructions, even though it meant a personal loss of between \$45 and \$50 a week when he went to work for Acushnet Process Co., in Fairhaven.

He called his educational background as that of the "average American" with high school, business school and a Bachelor of Laws degree.

He decided to join the party after contacting the FBI, and reported the fact to his wife. He paid his wife high praise:

"I felt she would have to share in the outcome whatever it may be. Were it not for my wife, I would never have succeeded. She has gone through many straining situations — entertaining many Communist Party members at our

home and constantly watching the children to see that they would not say anything which might give me away."

Penha, who said he was a Catholic, digressed at length on religion.

The Communist Party prevented him from observing and practicing his religion, he said, adding that in eight years he has been in church "no more than 12 times."

He philosophized:

"Any person, be he Jew, Protestant or Catholic, doesn't realize the great privilege he enjoys to be able to go to his church at any time. I never realized this until I got into the party."

"Once I was in the party I realized that the very thing I needed to have close to me I could not have—my religion."

**Penha singled out Rt. Rev. Msgr. Walter J. Furlong of Newton as the greatest inspiration and guidance he has had during the eight years.**

"Without him I could not have succeeded," said Penha.

He was asked by Congressman Clyde Doyle, a California Democrat:

"Did the party control your church? What did they have to do with preventing you from going to church?"

Said Penha:

"Sir, they control every moment of your life and they are atheists

to begin with. The hard-core members do not believe in it (religion) and I can assure you if I had gone to church I wouldn't be here today."

*[Handwritten signature]*

# Fairhaven Counterspy to Unmask More Reds Today

## Met 300 in N.E. In 8-Yr. Ordeal

By STANLEY EAMES

Boston's most spectacular FBI counterspy since Herbert Philbrick yesterday took the stand before the House committee on un-American Activities and named nearly 70 persons, many of them New Englanders, as Communist leaders, workers and members.

Armando Penha, 44, of 22 Dover street, Fairhaven, former military intelligence agent and holder of a law degree, told of an eight-year infiltration to a place of high trust in Massachusetts Commun-



ist ranks which did not end until he appeared before the committee yesterday at the federal building.

In five hours of testimony, the dapper, gray-clad agent graphically outlined the cloak-and-dagger machinations of the Communist conspiracy in textile communities in Massachusetts and North Carolina, and he warned that the party, while numerically smaller, today is "stronger than ever before."

More than half of its members are hard-core fanatics who have

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won their way into labor, industrial and fraternal organizations, he declared.

Speaking easily, he told of his experiences as a New Bedford section organizer, Bristol county chairman, regional organizer and delegate to the National Textile Commission. In the process, he said, he met "255 to 315" New England Communists.

Penha laid heavy stress on the tough-minded Communist financial operations, which included putting hard pressure on members, phony "defense" funds and even a profit-motivated "farewell party" for a member being exiled to California.

He laid bare the elaborate secrecy with which Communists, not trusting each other, arranged the simplest of meetings and revealed that some of the faithful funds went to finance a hasty Florida divorce to allow for the quick wedding of two "colonizers."

#### PARTY STALWARTS

Penha's list of names covered states from coast to coast, and included such stalwarts as Ann Burlak Timpson, old-time "Red Flame" of the textile riots, whom he described as "vicious and unscrupulous" and Otis Archer Hood, whom he called "ruthless."

His testimony was temporarily interrupted to allow for that of five other witnesses, including Mrs. Timpson and Hood, all of whom took refuge in the First or Fifth Amendments. None of them denied the truth of his charges.

Rep. Morgan Moulder (D-Mo.) chairman, paid tribute to Penha, saying the group commended him for "your service to your country . . . to preserve the American way of life."

He told the committee that he volunteered to the FBI in 1950, after consulting with his wife, because he wanted to help maintain American freedom. He added that it involved heavy sacrifice: one of his first orders was to abandon a well-paid insurance job and become a mill inspector, at a loss of \$50 weekly, he dared not go to the Catholic church, which had been an important part of his life.

Penha left the stand amid indications that more names are to come when he resumes testimony, probably today.

#### DESCRIBES LIFE

The early testimony was devoted to naming Communists and describing their functions. Many of them have previously been named by federal and state investigating committees. In the afternoon, he began describing the life a Communist lives:

Under questioning by Richard Arens, committee director, Penha told of Communist fund-raising policies. "Dues produce some of it," he said, "and there is always compulsion. Dues vary according to the occupation, from 15 cents to \$5 a month. There are assessments too, determined by the organizer."

He told of Communist manipulations to hide the fact that the \$20,000 estate of the late Maude D'Haze, "a hard-core Communist," was diverted to party use through her leaving her estate to such party members as Mrs. Timpson, Hood, Mary Figueirido and Louis Dimitroff, in 1955.

Penha described the raising of

a "defense fund" for Eulalia Figueirido of New Bedford, deported as a Communist. "I personally received many contributions," he said, "and much of it was not spent for her defense."

"How do Communist organizations like the UE (United Electrical Workers Union) help the party?" inquired Arens. Penha replied that Communist travel expense was charged off by Douglas Perry, whom he termed a New Bedford Red and UE organizer, to the union.

#### SENT IN HASTE

Another UE organizer, Charles Newell, made "a poor showing" in closed session before the Massachusetts Commission on Communism and on orders of Perry, Sidney Lipshires and Alexander Leith was sent to California in haste, he said. The Communists held a party for him "and made money on it."

"Dues-paying union members don't know what's done with their dues," he said. "They helped the Communist party send Newell to California."

Penha described in detail a meeting of the party's National Textile Commission, organized to send "colonizers" into the mill industry, particularly in the south, which he said the party regards as of major importance. "His work is very effective," he declared.

To attend a meeting in New York he was instructed to memorize a password, make a several-hour subway and bus journey to throw off any pursuers, and introduce himself solely by a phony first name, he testified.

Penha indicated extensive Communist infiltration into North Carolina textile mills, where he was sent under the code name of "Tom" to observe and advise. In the process, he outlined the backgrounds of many persons he named as agents. "They would falsify college educations on job applications . . . nobody would hire them for menial jobs if their educational backgrounds were known," he told the committee.

#### NAMES R. I. MAN

Earlier, he named Ralph Lofsky, operator of a small Providence jewelry factory, as a party treasurer. Lofsky, a small, neatly intense man, nervously took the stand and declined virtually all information save his name and address, on grounds that he was not represented by counsel and didn't know his rights.

Rep. Robert J. McIntosh (R., Mich.), asked if he would be willing to testify at a later date, with help from any Boston Bar Association attorney. "No, I don't think so," he said nervously.

A more aggressive witness was



APPEL



SHERMAN

Samuel Appel, a Fall River dye house worker said by Penha to be "a key link with professional people, able to raise large funds."

Face flushed, conferring fre-



quently with his attorney, Gerald Berlin, Appel admitted to former membership in the Communist party but steadfastly declined to "become an informer" about those with whom he associated. He battled without success to introduce a written statement into testimony.

#### DROPPED OUT

He was a Communist, he said, for about 20 years, leaving the party in the early '50s. He "vaguely remembered" Penha, he said, as he argued the relevancy of one question after another.

Appel described himself as an apathetic Communist who had little participation in party affairs. He took the First Amendment on questions about the names of other persons, "as a matter of conscience." He said he dropped out because Communism "was not in the American tradition." He was warned he was in danger of being found in contempt of Congress.

A far more confident witness was Otis Archer Hood, who gave



TIMPSON

HOOD

his name, address and occupation, told the committee he had spent a "boring" day, and invoked his constitutional privileges on everything else. "Was it as boring as running for Governor?" inquired Rep. Bernard Kearney (R-N.Y.).

Hood declined to answer.

Mrs. Timpson, a middle-aged housewife neatly dressed in brown, got into a quarrel within the first minute, when she said she held a part-time clerical job which she refused further to describe.

"Many have been fired after hearings like this," she said. "Is it pertinent to add one more to the unemployed?" She admitted taking a trip to Russia in the 1930's, said she opposed forceful overthrow of any government, and jostled sharply with Rep. Clyde Doyle (D-Calif.) when he read excerpts from J. Edgar Hoover's book, "Masters of Deceit," to her.

The hearing resumes at 10 a.m. today.

# Counterspy Traces Red Infiltration in Textile Industry

## TELLS HOW PARTY DUPED NE MEMBERS

Melodrama, indignation, lapses of memory and downright refusal to answer questions marked yesterday's testimony by six witnesses before the House Un-American Activities sub-committee. Here are some highlights from the testimony.

Armando Penha, FBI counterspy, tells the committee about a secret meeting in New York of heads of the Communist Party's National Textile Committee in 1955.

### Security Measures

Q—(By Richard Arens, committee director). Tell us about it. A—I went to New York City and had to take several security measures, that is I could not go to the place of the meeting directly. I made various changes in subways. I used taxis and buses. I lost many hours getting to my destination. I had a Popular Mechanics magazine in my hand and the person I was to meet would have the same. I don't recall the exact words of recognition we used but they were in code form. Then we proceeded to a secret home.

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Pena named a Fred Handman as a key person in the National Textile Committee "Communist conspiracy."

The committee's indignation fell on the day's last witness, Joseph Sherman of 38 Walnut Park, Roxbury. He testified he was a native of Poland who came to this country in 1920, and is not an American citizen.

Q—Are you now or were you ever a member of the Communist Party? A—I must decline to answer on grounds of self-incrimination. Q—What non-Communist organizations do you belong to? A—I decline to answer. Q—Did you ever apply for naturalization? A—That question can't be answered yes or no. There is a reason why I didn't.

Q—Why have you not applied for citizenship? A—I would appreciate greatly the opportunity of becoming a citizen. Q—You have been in this country a long time. Why haven't you applied? A—I had to take care of a dying wife and I'm a sick man today. I have arthritis and an ulcerated stomach.

### Nice Suit

Q—Why not take a day off and go to the naturalization offices? A—I can't afford to. Q—You have a nice white shirt on, spectacles and a nice suit. Why can't you? A—This suit is my first one in nine years.

Interruption by Rep. Bernard Kearney (R-New York):

This is the most disgusting, incomprehensible testimony I've heard on this committee. You can't make a monkey out of the United States as you've been doing. (Applause) I don't think there is a word of truth in his testimony.

I'll ask that this testimony be forwarded to the Immigration Department with an eye to deportation. (Applause.)

Another witness was Samuel Appel of Fall River, who said he was a graduate of Ohio State University and was employed as a production worker in a dye house.

Q—Are you now a member of the Communist Party? A—No, sir, I am not. Q—Were you ever a member of the Communist party? A—(After consulting with attorney) I was a member of the Communist Party, but I will not answer any questions about my associates at the time. Q—At what time were you a member? A—The precise time is not too clear. I joined about 1930. I left about 1950 or '51.

### Knew Penka

Q—Did you know Arnando Penha? A—I very vaguely remember him, very faintly. Q—Did you ever maintain a secret mimeograph machine? A—No, sir.

At this point Penha is asked to testify again. He said: In the middle of 1951 Sam got in touch with me, quite nervous because the state law outlawing the Communist Party had just taken effect. He had a Communist Party mimeograph machine hidden and he wanted me to take it away, and I did.

Q—(To Appel) Does that refresh your memory? A—I can't visualize it. It may be true.

Penha: I'd like to assist ex-comrade Sam on this point. The machine was in the middle of the cellar, covered with old blankets. A—I may have had it. I can't remember exactly.

### Shoe Organizer

Q—What was your role in the Communist Party? A—I didn't hold any outstanding positions. I was primarily a shoe union organizer. Q—Do you regard the Communist party as a threat to the United States? A—I don't regard it as anything. Q—(By Rep. Clyde Doyle, D., Calif.) What about the Communist Party is not good for the United States? A—I felt at the time it was not in accordance with the wishes of the American people. I thought I shouldn't remain a member of an organization not in keeping with the American tradition.

Another witness was Otis Archer Hood, one-time Communist candidate for governor and a veteran of many committee hearings. He told the committee he was "bored."

Q—Are you now, on March 18,

### Event For

1958, a member of the Communist party? A.—That's a very difficult question to answer. The way I've heard the organization described today I wouldn't recognize it.

Penha, the star witness, also testified of Communist party activities within the "UE," United Electrical Workers.

He said New England Communists were worried that a UE organizer named Charles Newell was to be called before a state hearing "and would have been a threat if he appeared in public.

So, on orders of Sidney Lipshires . . . the necessary pressure was put on the UE District in the form of having Charley Newell sent away, transferred to California.

### Members Unaware

Here is a clear-cut indication of Communist party domination of a union. It's a fact that union dues-paying members don't know what goes on within the union. It was their dues that sent Charley out of here.

Penha was the first person called as the hearings opened. His initial testimony, in part, follows:

Q.—Mr. Penha, are you now at this moment a member of the Communist Party? A.—Yes sir.

Q.—Are you ideologically in sympathy with the Communist Party? A.—Absolutely not, sir.

Q.—When did you join the Communist Party? A.—In the very early part of 1950.

Q.—And all this time you have been a member of the Communist Party at the behest of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is that correct? A.—That is correct.

Q.—What position do you presently hold in the Communist Party? A.—My positions at the present are district committee member, national Textile Commission member and section organizer for New Bedford.

Q.—I should like at this time, as a point of departure on our general line of interrogation of you, please, sir, to ask you on the basis of your background and experience, how serious is the Communist Party in this area now? A.—May I answer this way, sir. In answer to your question as to how serious the Communist Party menace is in this area I would like to answer not only the basis of this area but across the entire United States. The reason for that is because of my experience in New Bedford and other areas of the country, I feel that I am better equipped to put it on a larger basis than the New England area.

### Conspiracy Stronger

On the basis of my experience I feel, and I feel sure that I am absolutely correct, that the Communist conspiracy, by and large, today, is much stronger than it has ever been. In the question of numbers as to how many persons are members of the Communist Party, the party, in some way or other, likes to play that up, as to loss of membership, and so forth. That it has weakened.

Nevertheless it is not true. The party has strengthened itself every time that it weeds out weaklings, those that they suspect, those who do not respect the party discipline.

Q.—(By Arens) In your experience what per cent of the Communists did you come to know? A.—In the New England areas?

Q.—Yes. A.—Sixty-five per cent of its members.

Q.—What was the first cell you belonged to? A.—The Section Committee in July or August 1950.

Q.—In New Bedford? A.—Yes.

Q.—(By Arens)—Tell us the names of each person of that group that you know as a certainty in the New Bedford section committee and also a word of characterization of each.

### Names Member

A.—I should start with Joseph Figueiredo, section organizer of the committee in New Bedford. He was responsible for infiltrating groups in the city. That was in 1950. He is presently in California.

Q.—Is there anyone else? A.—Yes, Velalia Figueiredo. She was Joe's wife and she is in Poland. She was deported. Her activities were with union and front organizations.

Q.—Anyone else? A.—Mary Figueiredo. She's no relation to the others. She was employed at the Fiske Mills, which are not open now. She was a leading comrade. She worked in the membership of the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO. She was an officer for several years in the union.

Q.—Is there any one else? A.—Joy Clark Figueiredo. She married Joe. She was in charge of literature, press and news.

Q.—Is there any other person you know to be a Communist in New Bedford? A.—Yes, Nat Shelman. He was sent in from the district as a colonizer. He was instructed to infiltrate key industries and labor unions. His wife also was a colonizer.

### 'UE Organizer'

Q.—Is there any one else? A.—Yes, Don Amado. He was a worker in the Goodyear plant and was to carry party policy into the plant. He was active in Negro circles.

Q.—Were there any other members in the section committee? A.—In 1951 when the state law barred the Communist Party, many of the top officers flew the coop. I brought Douglas Perry,



an organizer for the UE (United Electrical Workers Union) into New Bedford.

Q—Were there any other members of the section committee? A—Oiga Garczynski is at present working at a plant that used to be known as the National Silver Company. She went to work within the plant, to organize for the UE.

Q—Is there someone else? A—Manuel Coito. He worked at a textile mill at New Bedford. He was well-known and commanded respect from the local. He was active as an organizer.

Q—Is there any other member? A—Roy Rogersen, employed at the present and for many years at the Morse Drill and Machine Co. He is one of the best hard-core members, along with Doug Perry, in New England. He has been active in labor, and also ran for political office in pushing the Communist Party line.

Q—Is there anyone else? A—Arnold Schwartz is originally from New York, the Bronx. He is a colonizer. He was sent from New York to New England for colonizing and then sent to New Bedford. He was employed at the Wamsutta Mills. Rosalyne Schwartz is also a colonizer. She was married to Arnold when they came into the area. She obtained employment in the area also.

Q—Do you know any persons who were members of the Fall River section committee? A—James Rex. He was the mouth-piece of the party in the area and handled the press, literature and dues.

Q—Is there anyone else? A—Ernie Adette was used for mass agitation and propaganda and was utilized in Communist fronts.

Q—Is there someone else? A—Alex Swachyn. He was active in

labor circles in Fall River. He worked to influence labor.

Q—Is there someone else? A—Sam Appel. He was the key link with the professional people in Fall River. He was active in the Progressive Party in Fall River and in finances. He was able to obtain large funds.

Did you know members of the Providence section committee of the party? A—Yes. Geoffrey White, sectional organizer and chairman of the Providence committee in 1953. He has now moved to California. He was in the underground and was an extremely brilliant person.

He is a Harvard graduate and experienced in the Communist Party. He is an accepted Communist who will follow the line. He was twice elected to be a colonizer, once in Providence and once in the South.

Q—Do you think White has resigned from the party as previously reported? A—Absolutely not. I was very close to him.

Q—Is there anyone else? A—Ralph Lofsky was treasurer of

the party and handled finances. He is the theoretician of the party in Rhode Island.

Q—Can you tell us any persons who are members of the Communist Party in Boston? A—Yes. In the period of about 1953, 1954 Marguerite Hicks. I know she was active in legal affairs.

### Active in Fronts

Q—Anyone else? A—Ann Garfield. She was active in Communist fronts.

Q—Are there any other members? A—Jerry Olrich is a very able Marxist. He is well indoctrinated and an able theoretician. Much of his advice is utilized by the party.

Q—Is there some one else? A—Edith Abber. She was active in various Communist fronts.

Q—Is there someone else? A—Yes, Ann Burlak Timpson. She has been known as the Red Flame for many years and the newspapers were accurate. I would say that her part was like a red flame. Ann Timpson is a ruthless, hard-core Communist. She spares no one in an effort to get further recognition in the party. She is a past national committee-man and former paid functionary.

Q—I'd like to direct your attention to the New England District Commission of the Communist Party. Would you proceed and name the members of that group? A—I wish to state that an election was held in 1955 and this was the first election since 1950 or 1951. There were 18 members, two alternates and one at-large. The names as of November or December of 1955, I'll name the easiest ones. First, myself. Then Michael Russo, district organizer. Sidney Lipshires. He was district secretary. Daniel Boone Schirmer. He was party defense chairman





## TELLS HOW PARTY DUPED NE MEMBERS

Melodrama, indignation, lapses of memory and downright refusal to answer questions marked yesterday's testimony by six witnesses before the House Un-American Activities sub-committee. Here are some highlights from the testimony.

Armando Penha, FBI counter-spy, tells the committee about a secret meeting in New York of heads of the Communist Party's National Textile Committee in 1955.

### Security Measures

Q—(By Richard Arens, committee director). Tell us about it. A—I went to New York City and had to take several security measures, that is I could not go to the place of the meeting directly. I made various changes in subways. I used taxis and buses. I lost many hours getting to my destination. I had a Popular Mechanics magazine in my hand and the person I was to meet would have the same. I don't recall the exact words of recognition we used but they were in code form. Then we proceeded to a secret home.

Penha named a Fred Handman as a key person in the National Textile Committee "Communist conspiracy."

The committee's indignation fell on the day's last witness, Joseph Sherman of 38 Walnut Park, Roxbury. He testified he was a native of Poland who came to this country in 1920, and is not an American citizen.

Q—Are you now or were you ever a member of the Communist Party? A—I must decline to answer on grounds of self-incrimination. Q—What non-Communist organizations do you belong to? A—I decline to answer. Q—Did you ever apply for naturalization? A—That question can't be answered yes or no. There is a reason why I didn't.

Q—Why have you not applied for citizenship? A—I would appreciate greatly the opportunity of becoming a citizen. Q—You have been in this country a long time.



SHERMAN

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Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald ✓  
Boston Globe  
Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

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## Sherman Deportation Urged Five Reluctant Witnesses Quizzed at Red Probe Here

Five reluctant witnesses at the Boston hearing yesterday before a Congressional committee, adamantly refused to discuss alleged past or present membership in the Communist Party.

Joseph Sherman, 52, Roxbury truck driver, drew the ire of three committee members, who threatened him with deportation proceedings.

Others testifying were Mrs. Anne Burlak Timpson of Roxbury, Otis Archer Hood, also of Roxbury; Samuel Appel, Fall River dye-worker, and Ralph Lofsky, Providence jewelry manufacturer.

A sixth witness, Mary Figueiredo, was temporarily excused because of illness.

Following are excerpts from the proceedings:

### SHERMAN ON STAND

Q. What is your name? A. Joseph Sherman, 38 Walnut Park, Roxbury.

Q. How long have you been in this country? A. I was born in 1906 and came here in 1929.

Q. Are you a citizen? A. No, but I would like to explain.

Q. Have you ever applied for naturalization papers? A. No.

Q. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party? A. I decline to answer.

Q. Are you now a member? A. I decline.

Q. Were you a member of the Lincoln Brigade (A volunteer group which fought on the Communist side in the Spanish Civil War in the 1930's)? A. I decline to answer.

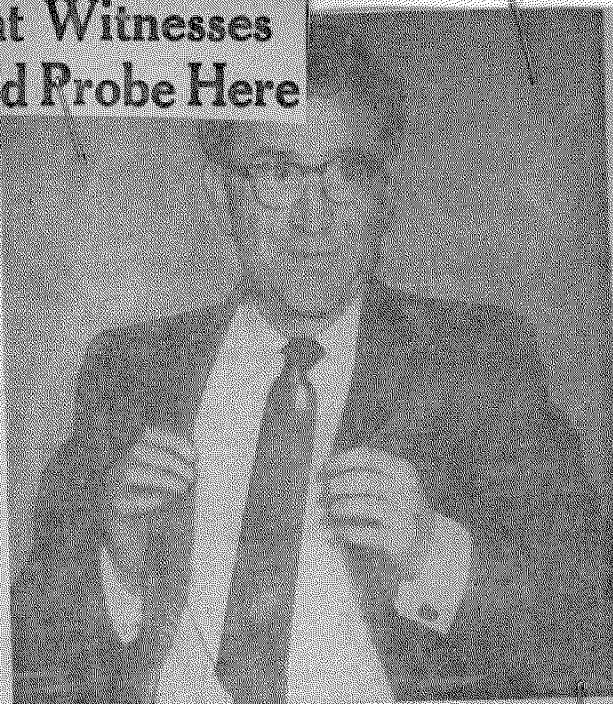
Q. Do you believe any information you give this committee might hurt you? A. I decline to answer.

At this point, Rep. Kearney interrupted:

"It seems to me this case should be forwarded to Immigration officials with a view toward deportation.

Cong. Doyle took over the questioning.

Q. You are wearing a good suit and shirt. You have a job. Couldn't you take time off to ap-



ALIEN WITNESS FACES DEPORTATION—Joseph Sherman of Roxbury, whose case may be turned over to immigration authorities by congressional committee.

Boston Herald  
Boston Globe ✓  
Boston American  
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## Neighbors Amazed at Penha Role

NEW BEDFORD — Armando Penha's North Fairhaven neighbors learned Tuesday why he had become quieter and more reserved in recent years, why he "did so much coming and going" but on Sundays frequently stayed home and pounded a typewriter all afternoon while his wife and children went to the beach.

### Family Away

They had suspected he sold insurance in his spare time, or that he was studying to become a lawyer. All of them were amazed at the disclosure in Boston that he had been an FBI counterspy

(Continued on Page Three)

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Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald X  
Boston Globe  
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Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

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# Union Dues Grabbed By Reds, Says FBI Spy

Dues paid by union members of the United Electrical Workers, which was expelled from the AFL-CIO as being Communist-dominated, went into the Communist Party treasury without their knowledge, an undercover agent for the FBI testified before a Congressional committee at the Federal Building yesterday.

Armando Penha, 37, of Dover st., Fairhaven, who dramatically unmasked himself as an under-

cover agent inside the Communist party in Massachusetts for the past eight years said of the transfer of the dues money that "here was clear-cut proof of the Communist Party dominating a union."

## NAMES 45 MEMBERS

In another highlight of his testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee, Penha reeled off the names of 45 persons he said were members of the Communist Party in this state and in Rhode Island.

Penha estimated there were 500 Communist party members in New England.

After Penha was excused for the day, five witnesses were heard. One was threatened with deportation after refusing to answer committee questions. Others refused to answer on various other grounds. They even declined to answer when ordered to and thereby made themselves liable to possible contempt action.

## EXILE THREATENED

Joseph Sherman, of Walnut pk., Roxbury, who testified he was an alien, was threatened with possible deportation when he declined to answer several questions, including whether he was a member of the Communist party.

He also declined to say whether he ever traveled abroad, was a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, whether he was an alien Communist or whether he had applied for a re-entry permit into this country.

Following his many refusals, Cong. Bernard Kearney (R.) of New York said: "I think this is a case that should be immediately processed to the Immigration Dept. with a view in mind of deportation proceedings."

This brought a round of applause from many of the spectators and then Cong. Morgan M. Moulder, (D) of Missouri, the chairman, said he would recommend to the full committee that the Immigration Dept. take over the matter with a view of deportation.

Later, when Sherman took refuge in the First and Fifth amendments, Cong. Clyde Doyle (D) of California, said: "This is the most disgusting testimony I've ever heard sitting as a member of this committee."

Otis Archer Hood of Roxbury was on the stand only for a brief period. He invoked the First and Fifth Amendments in declining to

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Boston Traveler  
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# UEW Dues Went to Reds, Spy Charges

Continued From Page 2

say whether he was a member of the Communist Party.

Anne Burlak Timpson of Roxbury declined to answer whether she was a member of the Com-

munist Party, stating the committee was not going to ask her questions about her political beliefs. Both she and Hood declined to say whether they were beneficiaries of Mayme D'Haze.

Boston's Only Shoe Dealer

Ralph Lofsky of Providence declined to answer when he was asked if he had knowledge of the financial structure of the Communist Party in New England.

The next witness, Samuel Appel of Fall River testified he was a member of the Communist Party but was not a member now. He said he joined the party in 1930 and left it about 1950 or 1951.

He told the committee he would answer questions about his own membership but declined to answer queries about his associations in the party.

When he was asked to name the individual to whom he paid dues, he declined to answer under the 1st Amendment and said, "I will not become an informer for this committee."

## MANY NAMED BEFORE

Mary Figuerido of New Bedford was scheduled as a witness but did not show up. The committee said it had received a certificate from a doctor stating she was ill and about to be admitted to a hospital. The committee ruled that she be continued under subpoena until she regains her health.

Penha, who was a wartime military intelligence agent, described some of the persons he named as "hard core" members of the party as he gave a brief description of each one.

The names of many were familiar since a large number of them had previously appeared before Congressional and state committees.

Other bombshells hurled by the dapper undercover agent at the first of four days of public hearings before the House committee were:

The Communist party in the United States "is much stronger today than it ever has been."

There is no doubt in his mind

that the Communist apparatus includes the presence of agents of the Soviet Union on American soil.

## OPERATE IN HUB

The Communist party maintains "section committees" in Fall River, Springfield, Lawrence, New Bedford and Providence, with "several" in the Greater Boston area.

He has personally been in contact with 60 to 65 per cent of the Communist party membership in New England, or about 315 persons.

In his testimony concerning the UE, Penha said he learned that one of the UE field organizers, Charles Newell, had appeared before the Mass. Commission investigating Communism in closed session and the word was he had "made a poor showing."

He said it was understood that this would have posed a threat to the party if he appeared before a public hearing and so "it was decided by Douglas Perry and Alex Leith, two district workers, that it would be necessary to have Newell transferred. This came about with Newell going to California."

During the course of his day-long testimony, Penha disclosed he was forced to give up the open practice of his religion to conceal the role he was playing.

## CONTROL WHOLE LIVES

Penha testified that in the eight years he was in the role of undercover agent for the FBI "I have been inside a church no more than 12 times."

Asked why he didn't go to church, Penha said: "They (Communists) control every aspect of your life. They are atheists. They don't believe in religion. If you go to church they want to know why."

"I want to pay tribute to Msgr.

Walter Furlong of Newton who has given me the greatest guidance and assistance. Without him I could not have done it," he testified.

Penna, father of four children, also lauded his wife for the support she gave him during the long period he was in the dual role.

Msgr. Walter Furlong, the priest whom Armando Penha credits with the success of his undercover mission, modestly disclaimed the role he played as the Fairhaven man's spiritual guide.

"When he was feeling down, I gave him a pat on the back," the Monsignor said.

"He came to me seeking to reconcile his position with his duties to the Church. I told him he must look upon himself as a soldier fighting a war."





OTIS ARCHER HOOD  
*Declines Quiz Answers*  
(Record-American Photo, Louis Teton)

Photo



ATTY. WILLIAM B. HOMANS AND ANN BURLAK TIMPSON  
*Latter Refuses to Say Whether She Was Communist Party Member*  
(Record-American Photo, Louis Teton)

Photo



JOSEPH SHERMAN  
*Balks at Questioning*  
(Record-American Photo, Louis Teton)

Photo



SAM AITEL  
*Named by Witness*  
(Record-American, Louis Teton)

Photo

# Penha Red Spy Role Big News To Neighbors

NEW BEDFORD — Neighbors of Armando Penha, 37, the quiet, studious father of four, who lived upstairs in a two-family dwelling at 22 Dover St., Fairhaven, yesterday expressed amazement at the revelation that for eight years he has been an FBI counterspy within the Communist ranks.

"I knew something was going on but I never dreamed he was connected with the FBI," said Penha's landlord, Jules Provencier, a barber, who occupies the first-floor apartment.

## KEPT TO HIMSELF

"I've sorted out the mail and seen the Daily Worker and other Communist literature addressed to him, but I never said anything or asked him about it. He was a man who kept pretty much to himself."

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Giroux, and their daughter, Rose, 17, Penha's next-door neighbors, said he was "a nice quiet man who was friendly and neighborly, but he kept more and more to himself the last few years."

"He was a baseball fan and a Yankee router," Giroux related. "We had numerous arguments over baseball. He always gave me the impression he sold insurance as a sideline while working at the Acushnet Process Co. (makers of rubber goods including golf balls).

## ALWAYS STUDYING

"He appeared to be constantly studying in an effort to educate himself. Summer Sundays, he'd stay home while his wife and the four children went to the beach or for an auto ride. We could see and hear him typing in his bedroom."

Rose Giroux said one of Penha's four children told her he was studying to become a lawyer.

"I never dreamed he had anything to do with the FBI or the Communists either," said another next door neighbor, Mrs. Gilbert Morris. "It's hard to believe—he was so quiet."



ARMANDO PENHA, 37

Unmasks Self as Agent

(Record-American Photo, Louis Tetan)

family at the age of 12, and returned eight years later. He joined the Army in 1942 and served with military intelligence in Italy and North Africa. After his Army discharge, Penha worked in a shoe store and subsequently for an insurance company.

His wife is the former Cecelia Borges of New Bedford. Their children are Joan, Lawrence, Roberta and Susan. Penha also has two brothers, Americo, a New Bedford barber, and Francisco, a New Bedford importer.

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Boston Herald  
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#### COOPERATIVE WORKER

The Penha family grocer, Anthony Sobrol, said "He was a real nice family man. I certainly am surprised."

Joseph W. Wright, manager of industrial relations at the Process Co. plant, said Penha was a "normal, average-type employee, very cooperative and a good worker."

"Knowing now what he's been doing for the FBI, I can look back on his work and see that he appeared to have greater ability than required by the job he was performing."

Richard B. Young, company president, said "I am simply amazed to learn of the work this man has been doing for the FBI."

#### ON LEAVE AT PLANT

Penha, employed by the Process Co. since October, 1956, is presently on leave of absence which started Feb. 26 and extends through April 17.

A native of New Bedford, Penha went to Portugal with his



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# Penha Foiled Red

## Bomb Plot in Bay State

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
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Boston American  
Boston Record  
Christian Science Monitor

Date: 3-20-58  
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(Globe Photo by Gilbert Friedberg)

**BLAMES FBI COUNTERSPY**—Olga Garczynski of New Bedford told House Committee she had attended Communist Party meetings but was "dragged into the mess" by Armand Penha, government undercover man.

stand during the committee's first night session, identified Roland Botelho, as the man behind the plot.

He described the New Bedford man as "very dangerous" and as one who has a "pastime of making bombs."

The undercover man said the bomb was timed to explode while Budenz was speaking.

Penha said he went to the leaders of the group and dissuaded them from going through with the plot.

Penha said his hair rose at the monstrosity of the plot and that "God helped me" to convince the leaders not to go through with it.

Leaders of the group, he told the committee, went so far as to prepare a sketch of the high school auditorium, its entrances and exits.

"They felt that if they could eliminate Budenz (who has turned against Communism) that they would have 'one less person to worry about.'"

Earlier, a New Bedford woman witness told the committee that she had been "dragged" to Communist Party meetings by Penha.

**RED PROBE**

Page Five

## Says Budenz Was to Be 'Eliminated'

### Dissuaded Party From Violence In New Bedford

By ROBERT B. HANRON

A Red plot to bomb Louis Budenz, former editor of the Communist Party newspaper Daily Worker, in New Bedford was foiled by an FBI undercover man, it was disclosed last night during a congressional hearing on Un-American Activities.

Armand Penha, government witness in the House Committee hearings here in Boston, said he learned that the party had planned to place a bomb under the speakers' platform when Budenz appeared at New Bedford High School several years ago.

Boston Traveler  
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WYMAN



REX



LEWENBURG



A. J. ...

## RED PROBE

*Continued from the First Page*

Olga Garezynski, who described herself as a press operator, said Penha brought her to the party meetings in February, 1953, and that he was "courting me at the time."

Her charge of "courting" was flatly denied by Penha.

Penha said he elevated Olga to the Communist Party because "that was my duty as a party member and I had to do it."

Raising his voice in anger, Penha emphatically stated that "at no time did he court Olga or any other woman or dupe in the Communist Party."

Rep. Morgan D. Moulder (D-Mo.), committee chairman, said he believed Miss Garezynski's testimony was made under party instructions in an effort to "discredit Penha as a witness."

The undercover man described her statements as typical Communist tactics and one of the devices used by the party.

"Illegal methods and deceit are nothing new to them," he added.

Miss Garezynski, responding to a question by committee Counsel Richard Arens, also admitted corresponding with and procuring literature from a deported Communist—a woman—but said she did so at Penha's direction.

The woman was identified as Mary Figueiredo of Poland.

"I knew her as a friend and not as a Communist," Miss Garezynski said.

Arens temporarily dismissed her from the stand, but continued her subpoena for the duration of the Boston hearings to enable the committee's staff investigators to "check out certain information."

Boston Traveler  
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### Penha in Jeopardy

Earlier, Arens startled the courtroom when he disclosed that the life of a witness (later identified as Penha) had been placed in jeopardy on the eve of the hearings because of an "unfortunate leak."

The morning after the news had broken that Penha would be the government's star witness in the hearings, the committee took immediate action to make certain the 37-year-old counterspy and his wife and four children were placed under a 24-hour FBI guard.

"When there is complete co-operative between the State and Federal investigating committees," commented Rep. Bernard W. Kearney (R-N.Y.), "no news should be leaked out."

### Five Others Questioned

Disclosure of the threat on Penha's life was made while Atty. Gen. Louis C. Wyman of New Hampshire, testifying before the House probers, lashed out at the U.S. Supreme Court for decisions which hindered state commissions conducting subversive investigations.

Five other subpoenaed witnesses questioned yesterday afternoon were:

**Sidney Ravden** of Crawford st., Roxbury, who refused to answer whether he was the Sidney Ravden whose name was signed to checks "totaling more than \$1000" and which were made out to the Daily Worker and the firm which published the newspaper.

**David Murray Fine** of Henniker, N.H., suspended Lowell Technological Institute physics professor, who invoked the Fifth Amendment when asked whether he had signed nominating papers for Communist Party candidates in New York.

**Manuel Cordeiro Jr.** of Vermont st., Roxbury, a typist, who read a letter of commendation from his former Marine Corps commander, but pleaded his Constitutional rights when queried on matters of Communism.

**Harold L. Lewengrub**, clothing worker, of Lawrence st., Roxbury, who cited the Fifth Amendment when asked whether he had been a courier for the Communist Party and a driver for Sidney Lipshires, named by Penha as a top party leader in New England.

**James Rex**, part-time salesman, of Cambridge st., Fall River, who said he did not know what a "mail drop" is and invoked the Fifth Amendment when asked whether he knew his house had been used as a mail drop for the Communist Party.

### Says Penha Two-Timer

Following is an exchange of questions and answers between Arens and Rex:

**Q (By Arens)**—Do you know Armand Penha?

**A (By Rex)**—What Armand Penha? You mean the man who was two-timing his wife?

**Q**—Do you know Armand Penha identified you here as a member of the Communist Party?

**A**—In my opinion, any man who two-times his wife can't be considered very trustworthy.

Arens abruptly dismissed him from the stand.

William B. Homans Jr., who was representing Rex, said he had been asked to do so by the Boston Bar Association.

Fine, who was represented by Atty. Howard S. Whiteside, told the committee he holds bachelor and master's degrees from Columbia University and is now studying at Boston University for his doctorate.

The physics instructor who was



RAVDEN

FINE

Boston Traveler  
Boston Herald  
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suspended by the trustees of state-supported Lowell Tech last week, told the committee he has not been a member of the Communist Party since 1953.

Arens produced photostatic copies of nomination papers for Communist candidates in New York in the early 1940's, but Fine took the 5th Amendment when asked whether his signature was on those documents.

#### "Still an American"

Fine, who said he served in the armed forces during 1944-45 and later studied under the G.I. Bill, also took the 5th amendment when asked if he had been a party member during his military service.

Kearney, former past national commander of the V.F.W., interrupted at this point to say that he has filed a bill in Congress which would prevent Communists from obtaining benefits under the G.I. Bill.

Q. (By Arens)—Would you disclose information you know to this committee if we gave you immunity from prosecution?

A. (By Fine)—That depends upon the circumstances.

Q. (By Moulder)—Do you favor the objectives and philosophies of the Communist Party?

A. I do not. I am still an American.

#### Schirmer Called

Called to the stand at 7:30 when the night session opened was Daniel Boone Schirmer, named by Penha as a top party member.

Schirmer, a Harvard graduate and veteran of World War II, declined to answer all questions by the committee and invoked the 5th amendment 42 times before he was dismissed from the stand.

Penha also named Arthur and Mary Macedo of New Bedford as Communists and said their home at 62 Sydney st. had been used as a Sydney st. had been used as a "Communist mail drop."

#### Woman Blames Penha

Miss Garczynski told the committee she had been "brought into the party" by Penha, but later said he had never belonged to the

party and didn't believe in Communism.

Penha, she added, invited her to join the party.

"He dragged me into this mess. If it hadn't been for him, I wouldn't be in it," she added.

#### Flood of Propaganda

First morning witness was Irving Fishman, deputy collector of custom for the Port of New York, who testified that nearly 17 million pieces of Communist propaganda are passing into this country annually.

He estimated that at least half a million of them were sent to New England.

A Providence woman, Dorothy Friedman, drew an irate rebuke from the committee and a threat of contempt proceedings from Rep. Kearney when she failed to answer anything more than her name and address.

The congressman termed her the "most arrogant and contemptuous witness I have ever seen."

Mrs. Friedman and another witness, Mrs. Muriel G. McAvoy of New York, read prepared statements giving their reasons for refusing to answer.

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